

MISSIONARY WORK.

How It Is Conducted In the City of Washington.

No Lack of Effort of the Highest Order to Raise the Moral Condition of the National Capital—Model Missions, and Plenty of Them.

If the people of Washington are not all thoroughly good, it is not for lack of effort to elevate them to the proper standard. No city in the country has a larger proportion of zealous Christian workers, who cry aloud and spare not, and it is believed that in no city is the missionary work so thoroughly organized, presented so indefatigably and so completely comprehensive of all classes, colors and previous conditions of servitude. First in importance of the work is

THE CENTRAL UNION MISSION.

This is an interdenominational organization, which includes all the evangelical churches in the city, and each of them takes up regular collections for its support. Its headquarters are on Louisiana avenue, between Sixth and Seventh streets. It has there a fine brick building, 65 feet front by 94 deep, and six stories high, and occupies the whole of it. In the lower part are the restaurant, laundry, printing office, kitchen, and employment agency. Back of these is a wood-yard for the employment of these will be to work. In the second story are the offices of the Directors and officers, and a fine auditorium, capable of seating 1,000 persons and neatly furnished. The rest of the building is occupied with sleeping-rooms, bath-rooms, etc. This is where most of the work is done. The doors are open all the time, and there are always people in attendance to minister to every caller. Those seeking food and lodging are taken in and cared for. If they have no money they are not turned away, but food and lodging are furnished to those who want to pay for them at a very moderate price. For 10 cents a man or woman can get a good meal, for 15 cents a dinner with dessert. The food supplied is wholesome and well cooked. Those who have no money, but are willing to pay with work, are given a chance in the wood-yard, or some other employment. The employment agency helps them get work, and is a convenience to citizens who want help. A well-lighted, well-warmed reading-room is at the service of those who want to spend their days and evenings there.

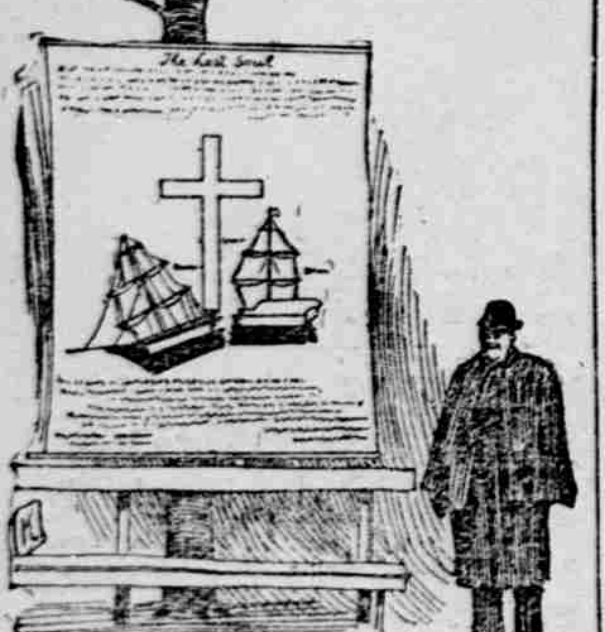
There are no cast-iron rules and regulations. Every case is treated according to the discretion of the experienced men and women in charge. Coming under the influence of liquor is not considered a bar to admission the first time, but it must not be repeated. The same discretion is exercised with regard to length of stay. Really needy and unfortunate people are cared for sometimes for weeks, but the chronic loafer and bum gets short shrift. The Mission appeals to the charitable people to buy their kindling and firewood from it, and so help on its work. It charges \$6 a cord for pine, and \$8.50 for oak and mixed wood.

Services are held every day in the year in the meeting-room, at noon, and again in the evening. These are very largely attended. The report for the period from Dec. 13 to Jan. 9 shows that 56 services were held, at which the aggregate attendance was 13,243. Besides there are 10 other branch Missions, located in various parts of the city, so as to reach every quarter. During the period above named 108 meetings were held in them, with an aggregate attendance of about 3,000. Besides these, during the pleasant weather the Mission maintains a "Gospel Wagon," which makes tours of the city, and holds out-door meetings everywhere that promises to be a good field of effort. It is a large, substantial vehicle, drawn by four horses, and carrying an organ and 35 people—preachers, organists, singers, and tract distributors. The preachers are mostly laymen, and all volunteers, and the work done by this means is believed to be unusually effective.

The Mission was organized Aug. 19, 1884, and incorporated Jan. 7, 1887, in order that it might hold property. Its declared object is:

"To press upon the attention of the un-saved the necessity of immediate repentance, and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as the only and all-sufficient Savior."

It depends for its support upon voluntary contributions, and so well has it proved itself a noble charity and work that the people of Washington have contributed most liberally to its support. During its 15 years of



A FAMILIAR FIGURE ON THE AVENUE. existence it has received \$150,000, or an average of \$10,000 a year. The largest contribution to it was by Mrs. Brown, who gave \$6,000 at one time. There have been frequent contributions of \$1,000 each.

The officers of the Mission are: E. D. Bailey, Chairman; A. L. Swartout, Secretary; J. C. Pratt, Treasurer; and George W. Wheeler, George Havell, Allen Wood, W. C. Tyler, O. B. Brown and Charles J. Laddon, Directors.

THE Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. is the next largest organized missionary work. It is older than the Central Union Mission, but it has suffered many vicissitudes in its history, and twice has had its building destroyed by fire. Now it is being reorganized for a wide scope of active work. Contributions from the citizens of Washington have come in in the most satisfactory way. Mr. Woodworth, of the large department store, contributed \$10,000, his partner, Mr. Lothrop, \$5,000, and other contributions have enabled the Y. M. C. A. to purchase at a cost of \$78,000 the splendid building of the Columbia Athletic Club, on G street, between 17th and 18th, and it will be housed there as finely as any branch of the organization in the world. It will formally open its new home Feb. 1, and it is expected that it will do an immense amount of good work during the present year. It will have a splendid gymnasium, rooms for all sorts of games, superb bath-rooms, reading-rooms, school-rooms, drill-room, offices, etc. A fine cafe is in the building, and this will be maintained, so as to give the members all the advantages of a club. In addition to its usual work, the Y. M. C. A. has maintained an excellent school, in which stenography, typewriting, English, arithmetic, mechanical drawing, and other useful branches are taught. This department will be enlarged, and improved. A membership fee of \$12 a year is charged, which gives all these privileges. It is expected that the membership will run up to 1,000 or more.

The officers of the Association are: S. W. Woodward, President; Chas. E. Foster, Vice-President; John B. Larner, Second Vice-

President; J. H. Lichter, Recording Secretary; J. E. Bates, Treasurer; John Joy Edson, Treasurer Building Fund.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

From its very first introduction into this country the Salvation Army has paid great attention to the work in Washington, and constantly kept a strong detachment of its best men and women here. The National Capital is known as the "Division of Washington," and is under charge of Maj. Ashley B. Pebbles, who has his headquarters at 925 R street N. W. He has under him three Corps, numbering together something over 100 officers and soldiers, who divide the work among them. They are all clad in the tasteful uniform of the Salvation Army, and among them are any number of keen, intelligent young men, and bright, handsome young women. Several unusually pretty and very modest girls, wearing the uniform, appear on the streets from time to time, selling the War Cry, the organ of the Army. They go everywhere, even into the saloons, and are everywhere treated with the utmost courtesy and respect. The tactics of the

night in the year. This portion of the work is now in charge of Adj't Hillyer and Capt. Adams, both very bright young men, who have recently been transferred from the work in Hindustan. Adj't Hillyer's wife is also engaged in the work.

A recent Sunday was a field-day for the Army in Washington, owing to the visit of Commander Booth-Tucker and his wife, from New York. In the morning, Commander Booth-Tucker preached at the Metropolitan Presbyterian Church, and Mrs. Booth-Tucker at the Eastern Presbyterian Church. In the afternoon Commander Booth-Tucker conducted a grand street parade from Masonic Temple, and his wife the regular Sunday afternoon meeting for men in the Y. M. C. A. building. In the evening the Commander and his wife held a joint meeting at the Lutheran Church on 14th street.

OTHER MISSIONARY WORK.

This by no means exhausts the statement of Christian work being done. Nearly all of the leading churches have flourishing missions in the poorer parts of the city, and the number of unattached lay missionaries is

lins and the Osgood fountain. There is always a crowd of passers, and on pleasant Sunday evenings quite a congregation can be easily gathered. One of the volunteer missionaries who frequents this place has a novel way of attracting attention: A couple of large blackboards, on which he draws representations of ships, crosses, and Biblical subjects. He has different designs for each Sunday, and makes these his texts for vigorous homilies on the sinfulness of sin and the necessity of salvation.

If any of us in Washington are not good, it is our own fault. There is enough men working for our salvation to turn the heart of Pharaoh.

New Naval Station.

Work will begin before long on contract awarded by the Navy Department for the establishment on the island of Guam of a complete naval station, including facilities for coaling war vessels and accommodations on shore for a large naval colony. Guam, it is intended, shall be fitted with all modern facilities for promptly supplying war vessels with any quantity of coal, and will no doubt be the stopping



THE GOSPEL WAGON AND ITS COMPANY.

Army are the same here as everywhere: street parades, with drums beating and trumpets blowing, open-air meetings when the weather is pleasant, with music, singing, praying and exhortations, and in-door meetings when outside work is not possible.

"SALVATION ARMY."

"JESUS IS MIGHTY TO SAVE."

The neighborhood is not savory. Around are saloons, cigar stores, cheap restaurants, etc. In the second story is a bare room, with chairs for about 150; a small platform at the rear, on which is a melodeon and a stand. In front of the platform are draped the American flag and the blood-red banner of the Salvation Army. Here well-attended meetings are held every Sunday and every

legion. These are zealous, earnest men, whites and negroes, who feel called to go out into the highways and byways and preach the Gospel to whosoever will listen. Sometimes in pairs and groups, one or more preaching, and the rest singing and praying. They will make their way to some back alley inhabited by poor negroes and abandoned whites, Sunday afternoon and evening, and without any preface open up with a hymn, follow it with a sermon, prayer and more hymns, until they feel they have done their duty by that neighborhood.

A favorite place for this volunteer evangelism is the large open space on Pennsylvania avenue between Seventh and Ninth streets. This is the real center of Washington. Several leading car-lines converge there, on the south side is the great Central Market, on the north a number of popular department stores, and the open space is ornamented with the statues of Gens. Hancock and Raw-

place for ships of small steaming radius between the Pacific coast, Manila and other ports of the Asiatic station. There will be a building of suitable quarters for a marine guard of between 200 and 400 men, quarters for the naval Governor and other officers, a large store-house, coal sheds and an iron pier, at which vessels of the heaviest draft may coast.

It is necessary for the contractors to transport every inch of timber, all the machinery, labor and tools from this country, which will add materially to the cost of the buildings and pier. One of the houses for officers would not cost here, it is said, more than \$1,500, while to build it at Guam will cost fully \$15,000.

The work of establishing the station will be done under the direction of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, which will assign two civil engineers to superintend it. Material for the coaling station at Pago Pago, Samoa, is to be sent from San Francisco next week, and by June the plant will be complete.

ON THE PICKET-LINE.

A Roundhead's Reminiscences of Rebel Deserter at Petersburg.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: During January, 1865, along the fortified lines in front of Petersburg, Va., the old soldier boys of both Union and Confederate sides became quite friendly. It happened on Friday evening of that month (I have forgotten the date, having lost my diary) I was detailed on picket. I got on the post known as the reserve post, or bomb-proof, immediately in front of Fort Steadman. Capt. David Book, of Co. E of our regiment, was the Officer of the Day, and he made his headquarters with

About 10 o'clock, while on guard on the outside, I heard and afterward saw a Johnny in my front. He called: "Yank, let us have a chat."

"Quick as my feet could guide me to the bomb-proof I asked Capt. Book, with whom I was personally acquainted, if he would permit me to run over and talk with the man of Southern blood. He replied in his usual and accustomed way: "If you are such a fool to go to the rebels, go."

"No sooner said than my feet, young as I was only 20 years, were hastening to the rebel lines. The boys who were there will remember a swamp between the two lines and a rail fence across it from line to line. On this fence, about half way across the swamp, this Southern soldier sat awaiting my arrival.

Our salutation was courteous and with a handshake. He gave his name as William Quinn, Co. A, 49th N. C. I faltered, and finally choking at telling a lie, I gave my name as John Smith. He told me the cause of this strange and unusual meeting was to ascertain whether it was true that Gen. Grant had issued a decree or proclamation that if any deserters from the rebel army desired to go North, free transportation would be furnished by the United States Government.

I answered in the affirmative, adding, provided such a deserter would take the oath of allegiance to the Old Flag. I urged him to come along, but he remonstrated, saying that a dear sister was living in Raleigh, N. C., and he would have to apprise her of that desperate act. He did not deny his feeling and loyalty to the Southern cause, but believed that it was hopelessly lost, and the further effusion of blood was sinful.

Quinn asked me about when I would again be on the picket-line. I answered, about Monday or Tuesday evening. He said he felt sorry. He would be on by Sunday evening; his turn came every other evening. I assured him I could easily find someone who was sick or indisposed, or well, for that matter, whose place I could volunteer to take, and promised that I would. As for the signal of our being on the line, I was to whistle as soon as I was settled down. If he would reply with a Southern yell, familiar to all the old boys, he would be coming and be on the lookout, and if possible bring several others with him. If officers should be at hand, preventing this, he would reply with a whistle. I should continue from time to time until our plan was consummated.

Before parting, however, Quinn asked me

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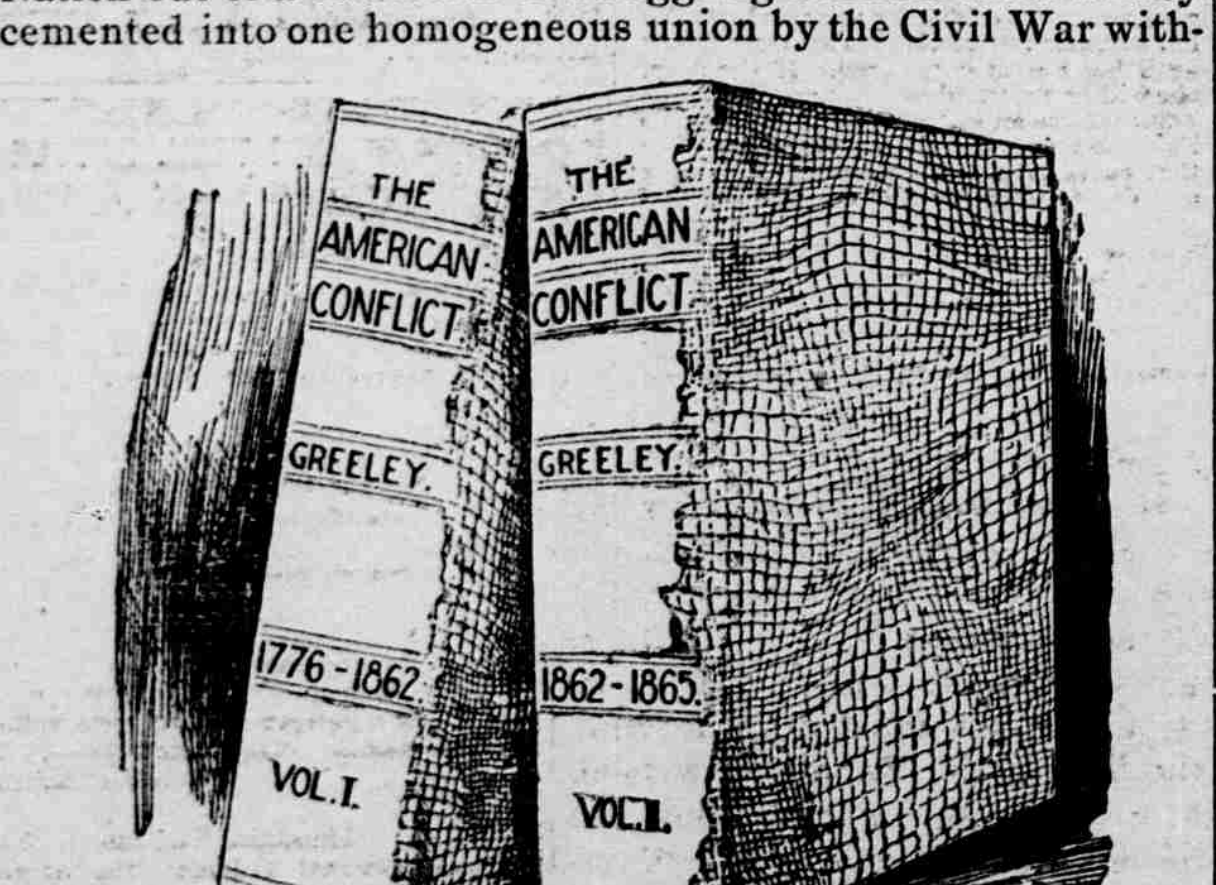
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